

REMARKS

After entry of the present Amendment, claims 1-16 and 18 remain in the application. Specifically, claim 1 has been amended, claim 17 has been canceled, and claims 2-16, and 18 remain unchanged.

Based on the indication of allowed claims 1-16 and 18 by the Examiner (described immediately below), the instant claims are now in condition for allowance. No new matter has been added in this Amendment.

Claims Amendments and Comments

On page 2 of the instant Office Action, the Examiner indicates that claims 1-16 and 18 are allowed. The Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowance.

As such, in an effort to facilitate prosecution of the pending application and obtain a Notice of Allowance, claim 17 has been cancelled. In addition, claim 1 has been amended merely to fix a typographical error, where the word “at” has been added merely for the purpose of proper grammar. The Applicants respectfully assert that this amendment does not change the scope of claim 1 in any way, such that the indicated allowance of claim 1 is not affected. Therefore, the claims, as amended, are now in condition for allowance, as well as the claims that depend therefrom.

Claim Rejections

Claim 17 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101. Claim 17 has been canceled as described above. As such, this rejection is now moot.

Conclusions

The Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1 is both novel and non-obvious over the disclosure, teachings, and suggestions of the prior art. As such, claim 1, as well as the claims that depend therefrom, are in condition for allowance.

If any additional fees are necessary to respond to the outstanding Office Action, you are hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 08-2789 in the name of Howard & Howard Attorneys PLLC.

Respectfully submitted,

HOWARD & HOWARD ATTORNEYS PLLC

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